

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 ACDA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 EURE-00 /085 W

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O R 221841Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3365

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SS, MO, SP, UN

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: SAHARA ROUND-UP

REF: MADRID 7284

SUMMARY: SPECIAL GOS ENVOY, SOLIS URIZ, RETURNED FROM RABAT SAYING TOATH GOS AND GOM WERE CONTINUING DIALOGUE AND THAT HASSAN WAS WILLING TO DISCUSS ALL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. SPANISH AUTHORITIES IN SAHARA HAVE URGED ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DEPENDENTS TO LEAVE TERRITORY. IN PRESENCE OF ALGERIAN OFFICER, F POLISARIO EXCHANGED AT MAHBES (SPANISH SAHARA) LAST TWO SPANISH PRISONERS FOR 12 OF ITS FOLLOWERS HELD BY SPANIARDS. F POLISARIO REP REITERATED FRONT'S READINESS TO DEFEND SAHARA IN PRESS INTERVIEW IN PARIS. LOCAL
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MEDIA CONTINUES TO FRET OVER MOROCCAN ADVENTURES, U.S. ATTITUDE

IN THE UN, AND SLOWNESS OF UN PROCEEDINGS.
END SUMMARY

1. ON HIS RETURN LATE OCT 21 FROM RABAT WHERE HE HELD TWO MEETINGS WITH KING HASSAN, GOS MINISTER OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT, SOLIS RUIZ, TOLD PRESS REPS THAT "DOORS HAD BEEN LEFT OPEN FOR SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS." HE SAID THAT HE HAD FOUND KING WILLING TO SEEK UNDERSTANDING WITH SPAIN AND TO DISCUSS ALL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. (SOLIS ALSO IDENTIFIED PRIME MINISTER ARIAS NAVARRO AS THE AUTHORITY WHO ORDERED HIM TO MAKE TRIP, ADDING THAT HASSAN AHD ASKED THAT HE TRANSMIT HIS GRATITUDE TO ARIAS FOR THIS DECISION. HASSAN, HE SAID, ASKED ABOUT FRAMCO'S HEALTH SAYING THAT HE WAS A GREAT MAN.

2. SPAIN HAS ALSO BEEN ACTIVE WITH THE F POLISARIO IN THE SAHARA. IN THE PRESENCE OF AN ALGERIAN OFFICER, SPANISH AUTHORITIES TURNED OVER OCT 21, TWELVE OF SEVENTEEN F POLISARIO PRISONERS STILL IN THEIR HANDS FOR THE KLAST TWO SPANISH PROSINERS (ONE MILITARY AND ONE CIVILIAN) IN THE FRONT'S HANDS. EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE AT MAHBES, ADJACENT TO JUNCTURE OF MOROCCAN, ALGERIAN, SAHARAN BORDER. IN PRESS CONFERENCE IN PARIS OCT 21 AN F POLISARIO REP STATED THAT RELATIONS WITH SPAIN HAD CHANGED RADICALLY. HE ALLEGED THAT SAHARAN PEOPLE WERE "MEBILIZED" AND THAT F POLISARIO WOULD RESIST MOROCCAN "AGGRESSION."

3. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL SPANISH NEWS AGENCY, SPANISH AUTHORITIES IN SAHARA HAVE URGED DEPENDENTS OF MILITARY AND CIVILIANS TO BEGIN EVACUATING TERRITORY. EVACUATION PLANS WERE PREPARED SINCE LAST SPRING AND WE NOTED IN EARLY SUMMER THAT THE NUMBER OF REGULAR FLIGHTS TO SPAIN HAD BEEN INCREASED.

4. PRESS AND TV CONTINUE TO GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO SAHARAN DEVELOPMENTS, PARTICULARLY UN PROCEEDINGS, DETAILS OF PLANNED MOROCCAN MARCH, PURPORTED SUPPORT FOR MARCH AMONG SOME ARAB COUNTRIES, AND FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS OF HAPPENINGS IN SAHARA. SEVERAL CORRESPONDENTS IN EL AIUUN REPORT HAVING SEEN SPANISH SOLDIERS LAYING NEW MINE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FIELDS ALONG ACCESS ROUTES TO EL AIUUN, IN SOME CASES WITH IDENTIFICATION MARKERS TO WARN TRESPASSERS OF THEIR PRESENCE. ONE ACCOUNT IN "ABC" OCT 22 ALLEGES THAT U.S. MINES SUPPLIED TO MOROCCO HAVE TURNED UP IN MINEFIELDS LAID BY REGULAR OR IRREGUALR MOROCCAN TROOPS.

5. CONSIDERABLE CONCERN HAS BEEN EXPRESSED OVER THE SLOWNESS OF THE UN PROCEEDINGS AND RENEWED FEARS HAVE BEEN

VOICED IN SOME ACCOUNTS THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTS THE MOROCCANS.
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